### UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 7

901 N. 5th STREET

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In the Matter of	)	
CHARLIE WASHINGTON AND CAROLYN WASHINGTON St. Louis, Missouri	) Docket No. )	TSCA-07-2004-0089
Respondents	) )	

# **CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER**

### Introduction

Prior to the filing of a complaint in this matter, the parties have agreed to the settlement of an administrative cause of action for the assessment of civil penalties under Section 16(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), in accordance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, Issuance of Compliance or Corrective Action Orders, and the Revocation, Termination or Suspension of Permits, found at 40 C.F.R. Part 22. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b), it is the intent of the parties to simultaneously commence and conclude this proceeding by the issuance of this Consent Agreement and Final Order.

The Complainant, by delegation from the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is the Chief, Radiation, Asbestos, Lead & Indoor Programs Branch, EPA, Region 7. The Respondents are Charlie Washington and Carolyn Washington, 4111 West Florissant, St. Louis, Missouri 63115.

### Complainant's Allegations

Complainant has reason to believe that Respondents have violated Section 409 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2689, by failing to comply with the regulatory requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subpart F - Disclosure of Known Lead-Based Paint and/or Lead-Based Paint Hazards Upon Sale or Lease of Residential Property ("Disclosure Rule"), which was promulgated pursuant to Section 1018 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, 42 U.S.C. § 4852d. Specifically, Complainant alleges:

#### Count I

- 1. Charlie Washington and Carolyn Washington ("Respondents") are individual persons.
- 2. For all periods of time relevant to the violation alleged herein, Respondents owned a residential property located at 4543 Harris Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri (the "Property").
  - 3. The Property was constructed prior to 1978.
  - 4. The Property is "target housing" as defined by 40 C.F.R. § 745.103.
- 5. In or around July 2001, Respondents entered into a rental agreement (the "Contract") with Pinker D. Washington for the lease of Respondents' Property for residential use.
- 6. As a result of the Contract described in Paragraph 5 above, Respondents became the "lessors," and Pinker D. Washington became the "lessee," as those terms are defined by 40 C.F.R. § 745.103.
  - 7. Pinker D. Washington subsequently moved into the Property.
- 8. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 745.107(a)(1), before the lessee is obligated under any contract to lease target housing, the lessor of target housing must provide the lessee with an EPA-approved lead hazard information pamphlet.
- Respondents did not provide an EPA-approved lead hazard information pamphlet to
   Pinker D. Washington prior to being obligated under the Contract described in Paragraph 5 above.

10. Respondents' failure to provide an EPA-approved lead hazard information pamphlet to Pinker D. Washington prior to being obligated under the Contract described in Paragraph 5 above is a violation of 40 C.F.R. § 745.107(a)(1) and Section 409 of TSCA.

## **CONSENT AGREEMENT**

- 1. For the purposes of this proceeding, Respondents admit that Complainant has jurisdiction to bring this action pursuant to the statutory and regulatory provisions cited above, and neither admit nor deny Complainant's factual allegations above.
- 2. Respondents waive their right to contest Complainant's allegations above, and their right to appeal the Final Order accompanying this Consent Agreement.
- 3. Respondents and Complainant agree to conciliate this matter without the necessity of a formal hearing and to bear their respective costs and attorneys' fees.
- 4. Respondents certify by the signing of this Consent Agreement and Final Order that to the best of Respondents' knowledge, they are presently in compliance with all requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subpart F Disclosure of Known Lead-Based Paint and/or Lead-Based Paint Hazards Upon Sale or Lease of Residential Property ("Disclosure Rule").
- 5. Respondents consent to the issuance of the Final Order hereinafter recited and consent to the payment of a civil penalty in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) to be paid within forty-five (45) days of the effective date of the Final Order.
- 6. Respondents understand that their failure to timely pay any portion of the penalty stated in Paragraph 5 above may result in the commencement of a civil action in Federal District Court to recover the full remaining balance, along with penalties and accumulated interest. In such case, interest shall accrue thereon at the rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury (currently two

percent (2%) per annum for the period January 1, 2003, through December 31, 2003) on the unpaid balance until such civil penalty and any accrued interest are paid in full. A late payment handling charge of \$15 will be imposed after 30 days and an additional \$15 will be charged for each subsequent 30-day period. Additionally, as provided by 31 U.S.C. § 3717(e)(2), a six percent (6%) per annum penalty (late charge) may be assessed on any amount not paid within ninety (90) days of the due date.

#### Final Order

Pursuant to the provisions of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), 15 U.S.C. § 2601 et seq., and based upon the information set forth in the Consent Agreement accompanying this Final Order, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondents shall pay a civil penalty of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) due within forty-five (45) days of the effective date of the Final Order. Such payment shall identify the Respondents by name and docket number and shall be by certified or cashier's check made payable to the "United States Treasury" and remitted to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7 c/o Mellon Bank
P.O. Box 360748M
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15251.

2. A copy of the check must be sent simultaneously to each of the following:

Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101; and

Deanna Smith
Office of Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
901 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101.

3. Respondents and Complainant shall bear their own costs and attorneys' fees incurred as a rsult of this matter.

RESPONDENTS: CHARLIE WASHINGTON AND	D C <b>A</b> R(	DLYN WASHINGTON	
Dite: 1-12-04	Ву:	Charlie Washington	
Date: 1-12-2004	Ву:	Carolyn Washington	
COMPLAINANT: U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY			
Date: 1/26/04	Ву:	Lynn M. Slugantz Acting Branch Chief	
Date: 1/28/04	Ву:	Radiation, Asbestos, Lead & Indoor Programs Branch Kent Johnson	
IT IS SO OPPORT		Senior Assistant Regional Counsel	

IT IS SO ORDERED. This Final Order shall become effective immediately.

Robert L. Patrick

Regional Judicial Officer

Date: January 29, 2004

IN THE MATTER OF Charlie Washington and Carolyn Washington, Respondents Docket No. TSCA-07-2004-0089

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order was sent this day in the following manner to the addressees:

Copy hand delivered to Attorney for Complainant:

Kent Johnson
Senior Assistant Regional Counsel
Region VII
United States Environmental Protection Agency
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

Copy by U.S. Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, to:

Charlie Washington and/or Carolyn Washington 4111 West Florissant St. Louis, Missouri 63115

Dated: 1200

Kathy Robinson

Regional Hearing Clerk